

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 746
By Dunn

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize "The Volunteer" by Ray Scarbrough as The Southern Gospel Song of the Great State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those outstanding musical compositions that inspire Christians to rejoice in the Lord; and

WHEREAS, "The Volunteer" by Ray Scarbrough is one such majestic gospel composition that applies the precepts of volunteerism to Christianity and vice versa, and from this context, traces the history of volunteerism from the Crucifixion of Christ to contemporary American society; and

WHEREAS, in addition to its superlative Christian message, "The Volunteer" also engages the listener's emotions to evoke the great pride that people have taken and continue to take in being Tennesseans, from the Alamo until today; and

WHEREAS, the composer of this outstanding gospel song is Ray Scarbrough, a professional songwriter and musician from Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for this General Assembly to specially recognize this exemplary musical composition by this praiseworthy Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and recognize "The Volunteer" by Ray Scarbrough as The Southern Gospel Song of the Great State of Tennessee and encourage all Tennesseans to take a moment from the concerns of their daily lives to enjoy the inspirational lyrics and beautiful music of this outstanding gospel composition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the inspirational lyrics of "The Volunteer" are as follows:

1st Verse

A call went out for one to go
And stand between an awful fate and man.
To bravely face the onslaught of the foe,
Oh, but who would take the stand.
A hill called Calvary;
A rugged cruel tree;
Became a battlefield where blood was shed.
For a hero, God's own son, arose and said,

Chorus

I'll proudly stand and be a volunteer.
I'll pay the price for freedom,
Let it ring throughout the years.
I'll give my life for others
And I'll fight without a fear.
I'll proudly stand and be a volunteer.

2nd Verse

In 1835 yet once again a call
Would rise for men to take a stand.
To bravely face the onslaught of a foe,
In a far off southern land.
Through the Alamo;
Oh, who would rise and go?
And when it seemed no one would heed the plea,
There rose a mighty cry from Tennessee!

Chorus

I'll proudly stand and be a volunteer.
I'll pay the price for freedom,
Let it ring throughout the years.
I'll give my life for others
And I'll fight without a fear.
I'll proudly stand and be a volunteer.

Bridge

If one should feed the hungry or cure famine and disease,
What better place to be from than the hills of Tennessee.

Chorus

I'll proudly stand and be a volunteer.
I'll pay the price for freedom,
Let it ring throughout the years.
I'll give my life for others
And I'll fight without a fear.
I'll proudly stand and be a volunteer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared
for presentation, with this final resolving clause omitted from such copy.